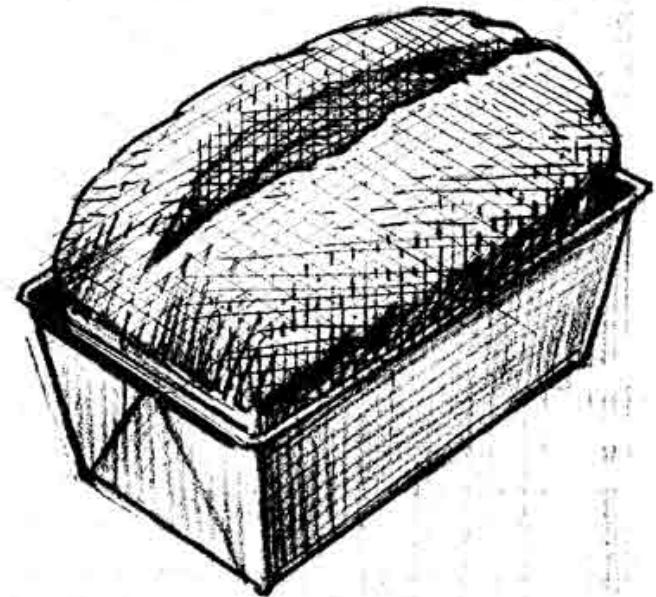


Vol. 3

July 2010



PAN

Prison Action News is a newsletter collaboratively published by prisoner support groups worldwide for prisoners to report on their struggles and acts of resistance from behind bars. All submissions must be received by Dec 1st or June 1st and be in compliance with the guidelines below. Please note that we retain the right as editors to alter submissions for grammatical and content-related issues. Prison Action News is one part of the multi-faceted Prison Abolition movement. We believe that the writing in Prison Action News is as important as poetry or political essays, but is often less represented.

History:

The idea for Prison Action News came out of the 2007 Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) Network gathering. We wanted to create a venue for prisoners to share updates of their activities, similar to the updates we wrote in the network newsletter. Recognizing that there is far too much activity occurring in prisons to put in our quarterly newsletter, we decided to create a new newsletter specifically to report activity within prisons. As people on the outside, we can facilitate this dialog of prison resistance, and help our comrades stay informed about the inspiring actions others are taking. We have recently opened up submissions to prisoners and prison groups worldwide, and to bilingual writing. With your help this newsletter will be a success- if you know of resistance taking place that is not represented here, please send us a submission, and spread the word!

Please send submissions and/or questions to any of the following:

*PAN c/o Boston ABC
PO Box 230182
Boston, MA 02123
BostonABC@riseup.net
or PRISONACTIONNEWS@RISEUP.NET*

*PAN c/o ABC Para-legal
PO Box 7187,
Austin TX 78713
twitchon@hotmail.com*

Guidelines

1. An update must not exceed 500 words.
2. We will not accept submissions with racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise oppressive language.
3. An update may be a report on resistance activities of individual prisoners or prison groups (this can include, but is not limited to, radical book groups, hunger strike, general strike, letter writing campaigns, etc.)
4. A report should not be a political essay or a report on prison conditions, rather, the response and resistance to these conditions
5. PAN accepts entries of artwork and illustrations.
6. One submission per group, per prison, per newsletter
7. We will not report on gang activity.
8. We accept bilingual entries (when one language is English), as well as Spanish entries!
9. Entries may be submitted for publication by prison groups and organizations, or individuals, and may be submitted for publication with the name and contact information of the writer, or anonymously, to protect their identity.

contact us at Texas Prisoners Freedom Agenda, c/o Boston ABC, PO Box 230182, Boston, MA 02123.

Website:
myspace.com/txprisonersfreedomagenda.

Email:
texasprisonersfreedomagenda@riseup.net.

People in the free world can write me directly at: Mr. Danny Bonds 542646, Michael Unit, 2664 FM, 2054. Tennessee Colony, TX 75886.

In the trenches!

Danny Bonds,
TPFA Campaign Coordinator

*"Let Freedom Ring" (On Right)
Ms. Irita Johnson,
858083,
Mountain View Unit, 2305 Ransom Road, Gatesville, Texas 76528*



The Struggle for Freedom on the Texas Prison Front

The Texas Prisoners' Freedom Agenda (TPFA) Campaign is working to highlight issues of critical importance to all Texas prisoners, and to organize and rally ourselves and our family members, friends and other allies in the free world around these issues. We believe that only by joining forces and fighting together that we can advance the struggle for freedom on the Texas prison front. The TPFA campaign is working to provide a unifying framework and a powerful voice of freedom and justice for all freedom fighters, justice advocates and progressive revolutionaries committed to advancing the Texas prisoners' freedom struggle.

In the fight for freedom and against criminal injustice, the TPFA campaign is strategically targeting abusive prison and other governmental officials to have them disciplined and/or criminally prosecuted for their misconduct/crimes while in office. This strategy enlists the awesome power of the government through external administrative or criminal processes on the side of Texas prisoners in the fight for freedom.

For example, a team member of the TPFA campaign's Guarantee Health Care Freedom Committee in furtherance of the committee's goal to stop medical neglect and abuse inside Texas prison system, filed a complaint with the Texas board of medical examiners against Dr. Ben Raimer, M.D., chairman of the TDCJ/UTMB Correctional Managed Health Committee, and charging him with gross unprofessionalism and medical misconduct in his supervision and management of the Texas prison health care system, which is grossly inadequate, cruel and abusive. The charge alleges systematic failures, abuses, and deficiencies, particularly but not exclusively in treating Hepatitis C patients, mentally ill patients, and in the investigation and review of informal and formal medical complaints/grievances filed by inmate-patients. Dr. Ben Raimer is the head of the prison health care system. If you get the head, the body follows!

Another example is the judicial misconduct complaint filed by a team member of the TPFA campaign's Private Attorney General Law Enforcement Task Force with the state commission on judicial conduct against Judge Sharon Keller, presiding Judge of the Texas court of criminal appeals. This complaint charges Judge Keller with misconduct in denying a death row inmate access to the courts to file a last minute reprieve to halt his execution. Our Task Force seeks to have judges and other officials who abuse or discriminate against inmates disciplined or criminally prosecuted- and to do so without reliance on government's prosecuting authorities.

The TPFA campaign has created a website, e-newsletter, and several other projects to enable Texas prisoners, and our family members and allies in the free world, to join forces in this campaign for freedom, contribute to its success, receive needed support, and to be informed and effective participants and organizers for freedom.

We call on all freedom fighters to rise to the challenge and rally to the cause of freedom! Join forces with the TPFA campaign! To help or for more info,

Table of Contents

Groups and Programs

Crescent City, CA -

Page 4

New Boston, TX - Page 5

The Almighty Pen and Paper: Grievances and Legal Work

Pueblo, CO - Page 6

Coleman, FL - Page 7

Lake City, FL - Page 8

Menard, IL - Page 9

West Liberty, KY - Page 9

Walpole, MA - Page 10

Ely, NV - Page 11

Mansfield, OH - Page 12

Lewisburg, PA - Page 13

Gatesville, TX - Page 14

Tennessee Colony, TX - Page 15

Draper, UT - Page 16

Solidarity: Working Across The Bars

Jussep, MD - Page 18

Vacaville, Ca - Page 19

Direct Action/Non-Compliance

Vacaville, CA - Page 22

Ely, NV - Page 23

Frackville, PA - 25

LaBelle, PA - Page 25

Rusk, TX - Page 26

Sturtevant, WI - Page 27

International Hunger Strike - Page 28

North American Prison Riots - Page 30

Updates on Continuous Resistance

Abilene, TX- Page 35

Rosharon, TX - Page 36

Tennessee Colony, TX - 38



PAN

PAN: NOUN.

BREAD. FOOD MADE OF FLOUR, WATER, AND YEAST OR ANOTHER LEAVENING AGENT, MIXED TOGETHER AND BAKED

Graphics above and below: Cover art from two editions of *The Conquest of Bread* by Peter Kropotkin

LAYOUT: JAKE CARMAN
EDITING: THE PAN COLLECTIVE, AND MEMBERS OF BOSTON ABC
COVER ART BY MR. TWITCH



GROUPS AND PROGRAMS

An All Points Bulletin from the SHU at Pelican Bay State Prison

My name is Kijana Tashiri Askari, a New Afrikan Black political prisoner of war! I am also the creator of a proposal entitled 'The New Afrikan Community Response Network.' The sole purpose for this proposal is to organize the oppressed free communities of Babylon around the issues of combating the longstanding First Amendment constitutional violations and abuses that we, the kaptive class of prisoners, are routinely being subjected to. In particular, the abuse of having our mail stolen, confiscated, or disallowed under the spurious premise of promoting or being involved in some type of criminal or gang activity, thus sabotaging our ability to sustain any viable relationships with the free community. The New Afrikan Community Response Network will serve as a defense mechanism against these abuses with the understanding that every community is impacted by the proliferation of slave kamps (prisons) that have removed and kidnapped many from the oppressed communities. The success of this proposal will largely depend upon the immediate involvement and support offered from the free communities. If interested, please write to the following address for a copy of 'The New Afrikan Community Response Network' proposal.

Attn: Cyd Grayson
c/o Boston ABC
PO Box 230182
Boston, MA 02123

To learn more about me and my personal struggles, write to the following address and asking for Kijana Tashiri Askari's pamphlets, 'The Series,' Volumes 1-4.

South Chicago ABC Zine Distro
PO Box 721
Homewood, IL 60430

To contact me directly, write to
Kijana Tashiri Askari
s/n M. Harrison #H54077
PO Box 7500/D3-122/SHU
Crescent City, CA 95531
myspace.com/dare2struggle
tashiri@gmail.com

ful ways to build an alliance and then when we do, it's only for a brief moment and then everyone ends up going their own way because of small differences. We seem not to understand that there is diversity in unity and we have to stop demanding and expecting that everyone else will agree with us completely on every aspect of our ideological belief. We must accept differences but not to the point to where it causes contradictions to revolutionary principles.

We must allow each group to function within its own sphere but be moving toward implementing the agreements of the Movement. In other words, we can't tell Africans in Africa how to achieve their liberation from a revolutionary ideological concept that is structured for an American society, because they do not use our same structure, does not mean that they are wrong, but simply that their circumstances require different forms of resolution.

The same holds true for various prison structures around the nation of America. Yes, all prison systems strive for the same thing but in different ways in different states. So one must assess the issues in one's own environment and work against them accordingly. Lenin stated that revolutionaries in imperialistic countries should not try to launch a revolution as the Russians are doing in Russia. One must come up with one's own way of addressing things in their respective countries.

The Movement in America is too divided, and this dilemma **MUST** be resolved. In passing, we have to notice how these small comfort zones are separating us and hindering anyone from applying revolutionary principles. We are not feeling the real pressure of oppression as others are around the world, and this stagnation prevents participation and consistency.

NPVM is looking for leaders and we are revising our methods and extending our efforts on many subjects; we must build revolutionary education centers - and this requires sacrifice. Having said this, I look forward to your letters and eagerness to get involved with us. Also, we still offer our Basic Computer Skills information, Legal Assistance Programs, and the Book Program is still being completed.

Contact:

Sidney (Shariyf) Williams, #563001
59 Darrington Road,
Rosharon, Texas 77583

(If for any reason your mail is returned please send your reply to:
ABC PARA-LEGAL SERVICES,
c/o John S. Dolley, Jr., Director,
P.O. Box 7187, Austin, Texas 78713).

Photo Left: Chairman of the NPVM B. Kwaku Duren, (with members and supporters) addresses a Protest Rally on the steps of Los Angeles City Hall, against attacks on the poor, welfare cuts and in supports of Reparations in October 1997. From <http://www.globalpanther.com/>

Special thanks to Comrade Twitch (ABC-PLS). His assistance in our efforts has been flawless and greatly appreciated. FORWARD TOWARDS FREEDOM!!!

In Solidarity, Isma'il Rahman

Isma'il Abdul Rahman
Jeremy Busby 881193
Robertson UNIT
12071 F.M. 3522
Abilene, TX 79601
(www.justiceforjeremy.net)



WHAT IS THE STRUGGLE?

By: Sidney (Shariyf) Williams – National Chairman, NPVM [NEW PANTHER VANGUARD MOVEMENT]

First and foremost, I would like to thank all that have responded to the last report from us in PAN; not to mention thanks to PAN for continuing to publish these brief communiqués for us.

There are many prerequisites that consist in making a revolution manifest itself in an imperialist society. Unfortunately, we are not moving in that direction. I must continue to express my dismay at the amount of loyalty and lack of insight as to moving toward liberation in this society. We have many parrots and egotistical people who continue to breed disunity and seem to love creating discord amongst the Movement as a whole.



New Boston, TX- May 2010

I suspect that conditions at the Administrative Segregation at the Telford Unit in New Boston, Texas are not dissimilar from comparable situations at facilities across the country. The authorities' routine denial of the most basic human needs (food, showers, recreation, and clean clothing) is being met with resistance of a prudent and appropriate nature. So long as the injustice continues, so shall the insurrection.

Due to the restrictive nature of the segregation environment, where minimal movement occurs, a limited number of options exist. Some of the nonviolent strategies include assuming control of dayroom areas, obstructing the closure of food tray slots in individual cells, and the defeat and confiscation of restraints such as handcuffs, handcuff belts, and leashes (yes, you read that last one correctly). These are some of the less drastic measures being employed in an effort to have reasonable demands met.

Although the grievance process is opaque and essentially ineffective, it is the only outlet afforded that allows documentation of the deliberately malicious offenses the officials commit. A widespread and growing usage of this process is being utilized as a countermeasure against the frivolous and arbitrary issuance of disciplinary measures. Collections of signatures for petitions and written letters to legislators are being used as well.

Folks are organizing a clandestine book club for the purpose of disseminating information concerning prisoners' rights and for the promotion of education regarding protection from the system.

Mitchell Yelverton
#1491948
Telford Unit
3899 State Highway 98
New Boston, TX 75570



THE ALMIGHTY PEN AND PAPER: GRIEVANCES AND LEGAL WORK

Pueblo, CO- May 2010

Earlier this year, us women here had some successful organizing against some new rules. The rules were directly related to our property and how/where to store things in our cells. They dictated down to the smallest detail, like not allowing us to leave a pen or a cup of water out, even when we stepped out of our rooms to use the bathroom for five minutes. It created a very suffocating and stressful living environment for us, and it strained our daily activities. But from the start we did not accept the rules. First, facility-wide, women addressed staff about having to store hygiene items with our food, also for having to store items we need frequent access to in a way-less-convenient place, in our big black footlockers under the bunks-- they are very heavy and have to be dragged out and pushed back in. It's a pain in the ass. So the staff responded by making amendments to the rules. But there were still a lot of concerns to come a bit later, and the more the rules were specified, the more oppressive they felt.

We ended up organizing our own meetings and coming together as a unit to collect each individual's concerns and issues and to come up with alternative solutions, all of which we presented in one letter to the staff. Other units organized in similar ways as well. Along with addressing our issues as a group, or as a few groups, women resisted individually.

In the end, the rules were made more accommodating to our needs. All of the main issues were addressed and we were given back some of the liberties that were taken away, so it was actually an inspiring victory for us. It's a significant thing because most of the time when new restrictions are imposed, there is some grumbling and only a few individuals may resist, so the oppressions remain. But this was probably the harshest addition of rules I've experienced, so we responded accordingly. Many of us feel inspired and, I think, empowered with this experience. I think it revealed that we can influence the conditions of our environment, even when we don't have complete control, and hopefully will be remembered for future resistance.

Rachel Galindo
#131837
La Vista, Unit 1
1401 West 17th Street
Pueblo, CO 81003

UPDATES ON CONTINUOUS RESISTANCE

Abilene, TX- May 2010

Revolutionary Greetings, My Courageous Comrades,

From the trenches in Texas, I'm encouraged to report the steps our sincere comrades of FIRST (For Institutional Reform & Systematic Tour de force) have undertaken to move our collective theories beyond mere rhetoric into practical programs for the downtrodden and oppressed brothers & sisters held captive within the belly of the carnivorous beast, TDCJ (Texas Department of Criminal Justice).

In an effort to reinstate the "Building Tender Program" (BTP, an internal police force amongst captives) under the guise of a "Safe Prison Program," the administrative tyrants have been met with stern opposition, as a result of organizing and mobilization efforts by the FIRST Collective. For those not familiar with the BTP, this was a draconian policy implemented by oppressors that operate TDJC in the 20th Century to pit captives against one another. A small group of captives would be given unchecked authority over other captives' housing and job assignments, access to religious and educational programs and privileges for the commissary, recreation, and visitation. They would issue punishment to any captive caught violating the prison's rules. This "Inmate Prison Guards" program was abolished by the federal courts in 1979! Thirty years later, the TDJC tyrants have devised a similar program that encourages captives to send an "official request" (I-60) on one another for violating oppressive prison policies. Upon receipt of this I-60, the captive is unjustly put into solitary confinement prior to any attempt to substantiate the allegations, depriving him access to school / religious programs, commissary, property, and visitation privileges. The captive who submitted the I-60 doesn't even have to identify himself. This is the same BTP with a new moniker "Safe Prison"!

Additionally, with the help of Comrade Anthony Rayson (South Chicago ABC) we're releasing a comprehensive and detailed report "Texas Prison Industrial Complex and the Inmate Economy" analyzing the Texas Prison Industrial Complex. The report is designed to lift the consciousness of the exploitation of free prison labor. We hope to inspire captives to join us in our efforts to eradicate this barbaric practice. We encourage all interested comrades to contact Brother Anthony.

Lastly, our comrade Alexy Rosa is litigating a 28 USC § 2254 (Rosa v. Thaler Civil Action No. 1:10-CV-12455) against the Texas Board of Pardons and Parole for unfair practices of inserting secretly adjudicated allegations into prisoners' parole files and utilizing those allegations in their decisions to deny prisoners parole, without providing a prisoner with the opportunity to contest erroneous information placed in parole files. We're seeking access to complete parole files for all captives.

Three inmates held a guard at knife point and escaped from the Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office Detention Center.

2 APRIL - REYNOSA, TAMAULIPAS, MEXICO

People with guns raided a prison and freed 13 inmates after exchanging fire with the guards.

5 APRIL – ANTHONY, TEXAS

Hundreds of La Tuna Federal Prison inmates went on a work-and-hunger strike protesting poor medical treatment. Two staff members were assaulted while conducting interviews regarding the strike. Inmates vowed that inmate-on-staff violence would increase every day the administration did not comply with their demands. The strike lasted a week before the prison administrators announced they would meet the inmates' demands.

6 APRIL - DILLEY, TEXAS

Two inmates escaped the Briscoe Unit of the Dilley jail on foot through a cut fence. They left from the furniture factory, where the inmates make chairs, through ventilation fans built into the wall and used "some kind of instrument" to cut a hole in the perimeter fence 25 yards away.

8 APRIL - HURON, SOUTH DAKOTA

An inmate escaped from the Beadle County Jail shortly after signing an extradition waiver. As they were walking between the courthouse and the jail they kicked their shoes off and ran away.

11 APRIL - EDEN, TEXAS

Inmates of The Eden Detention Center refused to return to their bunks and rioted through the night.

13 APRIL - HUDSON, COLORADO

Inmates took control of a portion of the Hudson Correctional Facility after the cell doors inexplicably opened. About a dozen of the unit's 41 inmates left their cells and destroyed sprinkler heads, windows and computers. The disturbance caused widespread water damage and the unit was reportedly left "littered with water, paper and smashed computers." The two guards on duty were forced to seek refuge in the captain's office by barricading themselves inside.

15 APRIL - VERSAILLES, KENTUCKY

An inmate being taken to court to testify as the defense's witness removed their shackles, kicked out the back door of a transport van, and took off.

DIESEL THERAPY or, The COZZA RHODES SHUFFLE

Greetings Brothers and Sisters...It seems that I've been "retired" to sunny Florida (USP-Coleman I). It's always been a standing joke about how when you reach a certain age, you retire to Florida, never thought the BOP would oblige me by retiring me – minus the chaise lounge chair and ocean front condo.

Back in 2005, I filed a "Bivens" action against then jail administrator Debbie Cozza Rhodes and Warden Helen Marlberry for denying us access to the law library, notary, adequate medical care at Federal FDC-Milan, where the BOP employed them. Talk about holding a grudge! I went to the Lexington Federal Medical Center, Cozza Rhodes sent a FBI agent to talk to me with the lie I'd threatened a guard at FDC-Milan. I refused to cooperate or talk to them, my transfer to FCI-Manchester in Manchester, KY, was changed to USP-McCreary, a large wall and electrified fence greeted me upon arrival. After 2 years there, I went to FCI-Allenwood, where case-worker Cozza, Debbie Cozza Rhodes' SISTER had me sent to USP-Terre Haute, where I spent 2 uneventful years. By uneventful, I was only retaliated against once, my law library clerk job taken for assisting another prisoner with a BP 10 appeal, had that shot expunged on appeal; but my job not reinstated.

Uneventful until Helen Marlberry and A.W.-Debbie Cozza Rhodes transferred to Terre Haute, with Cozza Rhodes, Associate Warden of Treatment, trailing along behind Warden Marlberry, as she did at FDC-Milan. On her arrival she had the Captain (head of security) trailing along behind me everywhere, searching my cell regularly, as a "favor" to her until I was placed in the SHU again – for alleged "threat" to another officer. Found not guilty, but guilty of "interfering with his lawful duty"!!! 54 days work time was taken, 30 days detention cell time given. Suddenly, my pain medication was discontinued, and lo and behold, was not returned to general population on completion of detention time! Cozza Rhodes was A.W. over both of these areas. Instead, I've been transferred down here to sunny Florida, to USP-Coleman I. My home town was Cleveland, Ohio, so, I'm a little bit out of my region!!

My Habeus Corpus is pending in U.S. District Court, Terre Haute Division, challenging my transfer; contrary to the Federal Rules of Procedure I was transferred anyway. Also a Motion Requesting Temporary Restraining Order to detain Cozza Rhodes from transferring me, in the federal lawsuit pending, in Detroit, Michigan, against Cozza Rhodes, Marlberry, and two U.S. Marshalls, alleging retaliation; I was transferred before a decision was rendered.

USP-Terre Haute has a "Stepdown Program" called "Blue & Gold", where anyone in violation of rules within a year, spends long punishment cell time while in the program, taking mandatory behavior modification programs, no religious programs, recreation with other restrictions. Officials are infracting USP-Terre Haute for minor offenses not previously enforced, just to keep this program full.

Writ Writers, Jailhouse Lawyers, as well as rebellious prisoners, are being transferred too with other prisoners, to nip litigation and dissent in the bud. "Blue & Gold" is unnecessary, as BOP officials already have sent most of the violent young

vocal prisoners to Special Management Units (SMU) nipping the violence.

Comrade Manning and Tyree are here at USP-Coleman I, so they did me a favor sending me to a spot where dedicated revolutionaries are confined. I spent years waiting to meet Tom, and I'm thankful for this move. It also gives me more fuel for the retaliation suit I've filed – so thank you Cozza Rhodes – do a few sit ups while you're at it.

Solidarity,
By Big John Perotti 39656-060,
USP-Coleman I,
P.O. Box 1033,
Coleman, FL. 33521

Lake City, FL- January, 2010

I am assisting other inmates with their grievances, especially concerning the institution's abuses of the grievance procedure itself. Columbia CI has developed a sinister game they play to try to thwart inmates' participation in the grievance process, thereby hindering our due process rights since the prison grievance process has become a prerequisite of our access to the courts.

Typically, when an inmate submits the first level "informal" grievance the various departments at the institution required to provide a response (security, food service, etc.) never reply. When the inmate proceeds to the next step in the grievance process in accordance with procedure, the formal is "returned without action" for not providing a copy of the response to the informal grievance, even though one can't.

These tactics are used in hopes that the prisoner will simply become too frustrated and give up. Frequently, another formal grievance on the improper rejection will get you the review of your original issue. Another tactic they use is on the appeals to Central Office. The staff likes to separate (accidentally on purpose) your appeal from your responses at the institution level, sending along the appeal by itself and returning your other documents in the inmate mail. Of course, this results in your appeal being "returned without action." Use good staples-this makes it unlikely they will attempt this.

And of course, there's retaliation. The guards frequently use shakedowns and fabricated write-ups on inmates who file grievances. They're very open about why they're doing it; they are aware they have virtual impunity when doing so. Getting as much of this activity documented in grievances is important.

And a preponderance of complaints focused on these tactics is the only weapon we have to contend with their denials of accountability. Their favorite initial excuse is, "well, no one else is complaining about this."

Keep that in mind before you decide to let someone else fight that battle.

-anonymous inmate
Columbia Correctional Institution

While being transported from the DC Jail to a hospital for treatment, an inmate removed their restraints and jumped out of the vehicle into a Cadillac and drove off.

12 MARCH - MIAMI, FLORIDA

A Dade County Jail inmate head butted an officer and took off while being transferred.

13 MARCH - DELANO, CALIFORNIA

On their way to breakfast, an inmate approached a North Kern State Prison officer and pummeled them in the face.

14 MARCH - POCATELLO, IDAHO

An inmate escaped from the Pocatello Women's Correctional Center and into a waiting car.

15 MARCH - CHESIRE, CONNECTICUT

Two Manson Youth Institution inmates assaulted a corrections officer and injured two more who tried to intervene in the attack.

16 MARCH - CHARLESTON, MISSOURI

A Mississippi County Detention Center inmate assaulted a jailer and used their keys to escape.

18 MARCH - KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA

An inmate escaped from the Osceola County Jail for the second time in a month. They snuck away from a group of 50 returning from the recreation yard and hid behind a shed. From there they climbed to the roof of the shed, jumped to the roof of the nearby dormitory and jumped over the perimeter fence on the western edge of the complex.

23 MARCH - NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA

A Pasco County Jail inmate used a cord to break a ceiling sprinkler, flooding a dozen cells and soaking medical and kitchen units on the floor below. When asked why they removed the sprinkler's temperature gauge, they shrugged and said, "I was thirsty." This particular inmate has a history of causing flood damage to the jail; they also flooded their cell toilet and tried to flood a shower while bathing.

25 MARCH - MATAMOROS, TAMAULIPAS, MEXICO

41 inmates escaped in a pre-dawn jailbreak.

27 MARCH - NEW YORK, NEW YORK

20 inmates, still angry over the morning's cell searches, refused to go back to their cells and squared off against guards at Rikers Island. When riot control officers arrived to quell the disturbance, the inmates were able to disarm them and beat them back with their own batons. One officer was struck with their own radio; many others were hit with chairs. Ultimately, 13 corrections officers, two of whom were captains, were hospitalized.

28 MARCH - SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Approximately 15 inmates rioted on the 10th floor of the King County Jail. For an hour and a half inmates flooded the area with water, smashed windows and damaged other jail property.

29 MARCH - SOMERS, CONNECTICUT

A Northern Correctional Institution inmate punched a corrections captain twice in the face.

30 MARCH - MARKSVILLE, LOUISIANA

the keys to their restraints and took off in the van after firing several shots. The van was operated by the privately-run Columbus, Mississippi based North Atlantic Extradition Services, Inc.

19 JANUARY - STANLEY, WISCONSIN

Two inmates forged documents and obtained release from the Stanley Correctional Institution.

24 JANUARY - HIGH POINT, NORTH CAROLINA

An inmate set fire to their cell and assaulted a guard. The officer received wounds on their chest, face, and both forearms after they were slashed with a knife made of two toothbrushes and a razor blade.

26 JANUARY - CORINTH, MISSISSIPPI

Three Alcorn County Jail inmates cut a hole in the perimeter fence and escaped in the early morning.

2 FEBRUARY - CORCORAN, CALIFORNIA

A guard was stabbed in the head with a makeshift weapon.

5 FEBRUARY - AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

A week of unrest escalated on the sixth floor of the Richmond County Law Enforcement Center when three officers attempted to break up a card game. The 31 inmates in the west cell block assaulted the three unarmed officers and continued fighting the deputies who were called in for backup. Six officers were admitted to the hospital including three suffering broken bones and another who was stabbed in the face with a pencil.

12 FEBRUARY- FOREST CITY, IOWA

An inmate managed to disable a security system at the Winnebago County Jail and slip out unnoticed.

16 FEBRUARY - BUFFALO GAP, TEXAS

An inmate escaped from a work crew in a county-owned pickup truck.

18 FEBRUARY - KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA

An Osceola County inmate escaped by removing a combination sink-and-toilet from a cinder block wall using a metal binder clip. They then crawled through the cell wall opening, over some pipes and electrical ductwork, broke a lock on a roll-up door roughly half the size of a single car garage door, and exited the building. From there they only had to cross two razor topped fences.

20 FEBRUARY - COVINGTON, LOUISIANA

In the St. Tammany Parish Jail's fifth escape this year, an inmate escaped through the ceiling of their cell and over the perimeter fence. All five escapes were due to inmates "beating the structure" by exploiting structural vulnerabilities in the institution.

24 FEBRUARY - FREELAND, MICHIGAN

An inmate refused to submit to a search and a fight broke out between the staff and seven inmates. Three guards were hospitalized as a result.

26 FEBRUARY - DARLINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

An inmate ran off the grounds of the Darlington County Prison Farm and into the woods.

9 MARCH - TEMPE, ARIZONA

A Tempe City Jail inmate escaped from a hospital where they were taken for a medical evaluation by slipping out of their handcuffs and out the front door.

11 MARCH - WASHINGTON, DC

Legal Report, Menard, IL- May 2010

I am still fighting for my freedom. I'm currently waiting on a decision from the Federal Court as to whether or not if I am entitled to a Federal Evidentiary Hearing or a new trial. Hopefully the writ gets granted.

On another note, I thank you very much for your assistance and words of encouragement.

Sincerely,
Vernon Tolbert, B56814,
P.O. Box 711,
Menard, IL. 62259



*Artwork on the Gaza Apartheid Wall
by Arofish.*

Kentucky Injustice Towards Muslims!!! West Liberty, KY- May 2010

A l-hamduli-LLāhiwahda! Bismillah! The struggle continues. There's a major issue and serious religious violation occurring in the KY Department of Corrections. The KY DOC and chaplains are showing discrimination towards Muslims by violating their religious rights under the U.S. Constitution, KY Constitution, free exercise clause of the U.S. Constitution and the RLUIPA (Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000) by not allowing Muslims to eat halal foods, to adhere to Islamic dietary laws and denying Muslims a halal kitchen, while the KY DOC allows the Jews to eat kosher foods, to adhere to Jewish dietary laws and to have a kosher kitchen.

The Muslims and myself are tryin' to contact legal, political, and Islamic people and groups as well as brothers and sisters on the inside to build support, gather literature, organize and exchange knowledge and ideas. The Muslims and myself are writing letters, starting letter campaigns, planning litigation, etc. – we Muslims will accept any and all help, support and financial assistance to get our projects and campaign off the ground.

Without support from both the outside and inside and the necessary books and materials, we can't stand up to the authorities properly and effectively. Therefore, we Muslims kindly ask all people who are sincere about and motivated to bring about justice, equality and freedom to join us in building solid support with us and fight injustice.

The contact people are listed below. We may take a little while to respond but be assured that we will get to all people. Our financial situation stops us from responding in a timely manner so please be patient.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!

Educate to Liberate!!!

In solidarity,

Hakim al-Shabazz Abdullah
s/n Christopher L. Young
#136515, D1-CU-D8
EKCC 200 Road to Justice
West Liberty, KY 41472

Yahya Salaam
s/n Joseph Keith
#195189 D4-BU-10
EKCC 200 Road to Justice
West Liberty, KY 41472



*Artwork on the Gaza
Apartheid Wall by Banksy.*

Walpole, MA- May 2010

In the Massachusetts state prison system, I've been held in segregation for almost a year, simply for my conscious beliefs and political activism. The administration "alleges" that I'm participating in Security Threat Group (S.T.G.) activities, encouraging criminal behavior and recruitment. Most recently they confiscated our latest newsletter that we have been trying to get off the ground titled "People's Liberation Force," truly powerful, positive, educational and uplifting. I stand firm in my resistance with a strong right fist in the air, the fight continues and the beat goes on...

"Power to the people"
King Buba
Christopher Santos
W91004- D.D.U.
PO Box 100
S. Walpole, MA 02701

List of North American Prison Riots and Revolts (From Fire to the Prisons Magazine)

3 JANUARY - OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Despite being handcuffed, two inmates climbed over a fence and out of the prison grounds.

5 JANUARY - ULLIN, ILLINOIS

Three inmates kicked out a window of the privately-run Tri-County Detention Center and escaped.

6 JANUARY - NEW YORK, NEW YORK

A determined robbery suspect being transferred slipped off their handcuffs and took off running.

7 JANUARY - SOMERS, CONNECTICUT

Two handcuffed Northern Correctional Institution inmates charged the two guards who were opening their cells to take them to the recreation area. They then attacked two more guards who came to the aid of the first two.

8 JANUARY - KINGMAN, ARIZONA

Three inmates refused to leave the common area and return to their cells. In the additional hour they spent out, they broke the overhead sprinkler system piping, several light fixtures and a metal track from a cell door.

9 JANUARY - SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK

At least 16 inmates barricaded themselves inside a living unit at the Saint John Regional Correctional Centre. For five hours, the inmates damaged furniture, plumbing fixtures and electrical wiring as well as igniting a small fire, ultimately putting 24 cells out of commission.

10 JANUARY - STILLWATER, MINNESOTA

200 occupants of the Minnesota Correctional Facility's B West housing unit refused to return to their cells in protest over prison conditions. The protest lasted two and a half hours before they voluntarily returned to their cells. The warden seems to have missed the point while reviewing the inmates' complaints, describing them "as having to do with the day-to-day operation of the unit."

11 JANUARY - CREST HILL, ILLINOIS

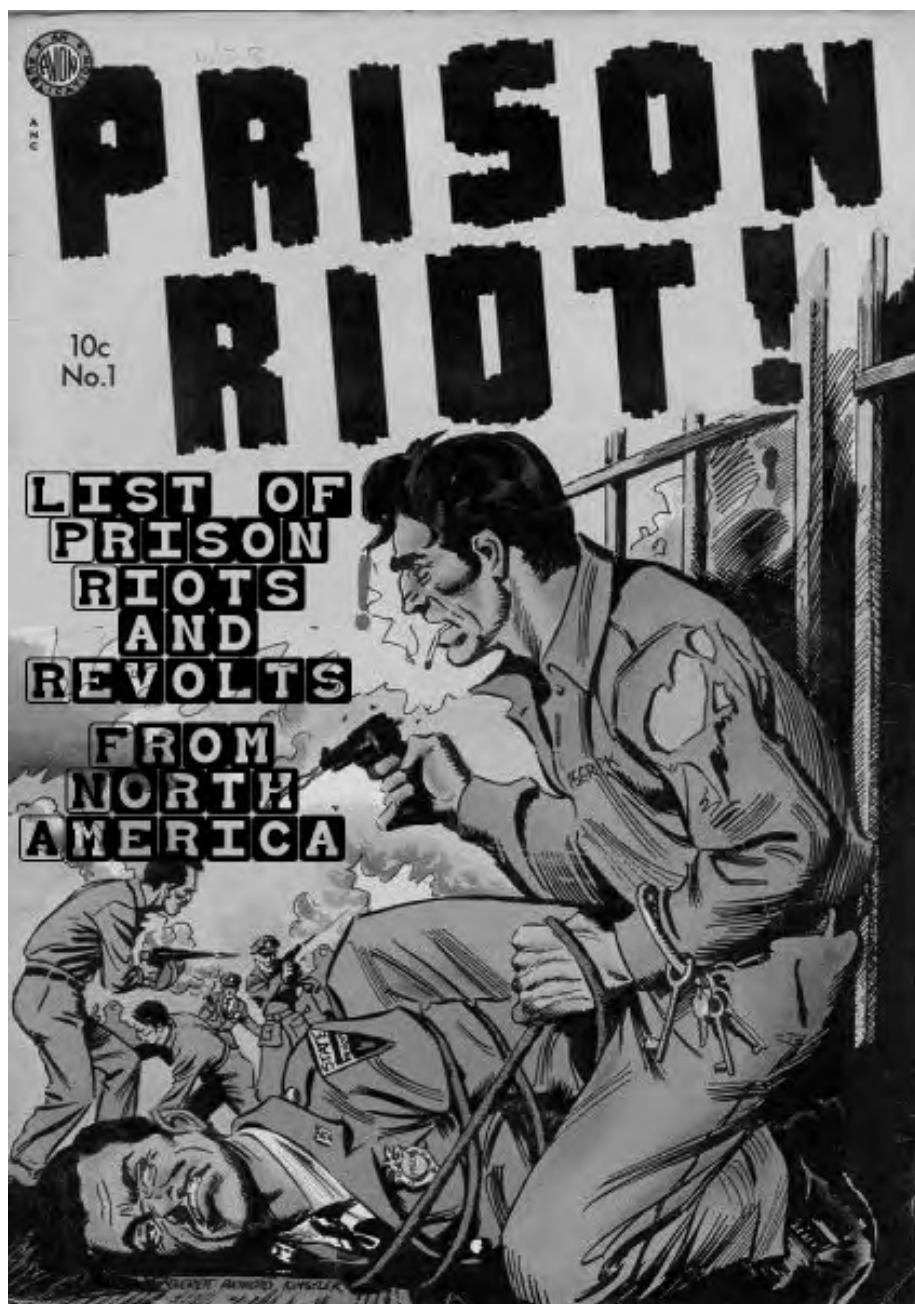
A Statesville Correctional Center inmate stabbed a prison guard dozens of times with a homemade weapon.

12 JANUARY - PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

Inmates rioted and gained control of the main prison shortly after the city was struck by a 7.0 earthquake. Almost all of the 4,500 inmates escaped. Armed with the guns of their former captors, they headed straight for the collapsed justice ministry to set it on fire and destroy any records of their incarceration or criminal history.

13 JANUARY - VAN BUREN, ARKANSAS

An inmate being transferred from California to Wisconsin escaped after an unauthorized rest stop. The inmate stabbed the transport officer with a screwdriver several times and took their gun. Waking the second transport officer at gunpoint, they stole



Ely, NV- February, 2010

Just another day in this underground struggle, listening to people whine about our living conditions here at Ely State Prison. They only have one open unit (unit 8) and they call the other units general population. But we're locked up 23 hours a day. How can that be considered general population? That's a joke. Right now I'm on my second level grievance on being denied access to religious items. I'm a Native from the Crow Indian Rezervation, 'Crow Rez' out of Montana, and as a Native Prider I practice my Native ways.

There's seven of us Nativez back here in this unit that are being denied our Native practices, smudging, pipe, sweat lodge, etc. There ain't too many of us savages in this prison system, not like back home (406.Montana). I've been in Ely State Prison four years and the prison has taken a lot of privileges in four years. Jacking a lot of canteen items, candy bars are \$1, soups 34¢ each. If only there was some kind of unity between the different races, unity for a common purpose... But that will never happen due to different obligations.

Anyways, I received the PAN Vol. 3 #1 January 2010. And I see that there are a lot of brothers from different mothers who are doing the damn thang! I got mad respect for y'all warriorz! I've been doing time for 15 years and my last war party was a demonstration in Deerlodge Prison, Montana. There were about ten of us that went off, flooding and fighting goons on the daily for two weeks. Then, the warden finally met our demands. A few brothers needed medical after that war, including myself.

But that's what it takes sometimes to be heard in this struggle. Now dayz the prisons want to label everyone S.T.G. (security threat group) so they can keep brothers locked up. I'm only 33 years old and I still have a lot of warpath in me.

Lately I've been listening to people on the tier talking and complaining about our conditions. I told one person, "Look, when you're ready to do something about our conditions I'm ready." He never answered back. Anyways, I'm ready to go on a warpath again. It may be just me because I know already what others will say. I have to go to parole soon, or I want to go to a different yard. Although people have been here waiting to go to another yard for years. Hahaha, that's funny.

Well brothers & sisters, keep your heads up and keep on keeping on! Native Pride. Some call us Indians the forgotten people, but we just move in silence!

Remember with an education we're white man's equal. Without it, we're his victim. So read about your culture, study, get your education. Love, peace, and fry bread grease.

Stay rezzed out!
That Native Hustler,
XEMO
M. Falls Down
ESP
Box 1989
Ely, NV 89301

The U.S. Will Still Have 49 States Left . . . May 2010

On May 6, my human rights complaint to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights at the Organization of American States was mailed off. In it I argue that, by the terms of the Treaty of Greenville, the area now known as Ohio was established as “Indian Territory.” The laws and courts of the alleged State of Ohio have no jurisdiction. Legally speaking, 50,000 prisoners are now held by a rogue state with no valid claims to authority. And it is now going to be an issue decided by the international courts.

The United States will still have 49 other states left, anyhow.

My campaign for Ohio Governor (see seanswain.org) is in full swing. I just issued press releases declaring that I am Ohio’s Governor-in-Exile (since I ran in 2006 and the fascists never hand-counted the write-in votes). I’ve issued Five Executive Orders effective for Bastille Day, July 14. It appears Ohio has two governors.

It’s a constitutional crisis.

The other guy needs to get his socked-feet off my fuckin’ desk and vacate my office.

My civil rights action “Swain v. Fullenkamp, et al.”, is still pending in U.S. District Court. I’m not alone in suffering repression for my published works, it seems; Ohio prison officials previously attempted to silence prisoner-writer Timothy “Little Rock” Reed...by having him murdered. Reed proved it, seeking and gaining asylum in the state of New Mexico. Check out “Reed v. New Mexico ex rel. Ortiz”, 947 P 2d 86, 124 NM 129, 1997 NMSC 055 (September 9, 1997).

Prison officials in Ohio are doing quite a wonderful job rehabilitating all of us...when they aren’t plotting our murders.

With 957 days until civilization collapses (December 21, 2012), I’m doing my part. I’m filing grievances with the chief inspector for (1) state pay to be raised from \$17 to \$286 to account for cost-of-living increases since 1982, and (2) recognition of conscientious objector status related to prison labor, as it violates my deeply-held beliefs to force me to keep this slave system going through my labor, making me an accomplice to the State’s crimes against humanity.

The idea is to get these into federal court as class actions. Either of them renders the fascist system unsustainable. Imagine 50,000 Ohio prisoners conscientiously objecting to prison labor that perpetuates crimes against humanity. Game over for the fascists.

As it should be. They’re fascists.
END CIVILIZATION VOTE FOR SWAIN
SEAN SWAIN FOR OHIO GOVERNOR, 2010
seanswain.org

Sean Swain
Ohio Governor-in-Exile
Mansfield Corrupt Institutional

preparing an explosive device). This is not for the purpose of wallowing in grief, but to extend direct action, by all means necessary.

It is also the occasion to strengthen the ties of support and solidarity among social rebels who have been kidnapped by the state in their fight against the institutions of government and capital.

This is an invitation for all those on the outside who want to show their solidarity, to take action. In the struggle against all forms of authority and repression, it is important to clearly show that our imprisoned comrades will not be silenced nor forgotten and their struggle is not isolated. We want to take this occasion to reinforce the communication and active solidarity between the “inside” and “outside”.

Everyone can decide, within their own context and creativity, how to express their struggle for total liberation and their show of solidarity towards social rebels on the other side of the walls.

The organization for this hunger strike is completely decentralized. There is no main campaign nor central mobilization.

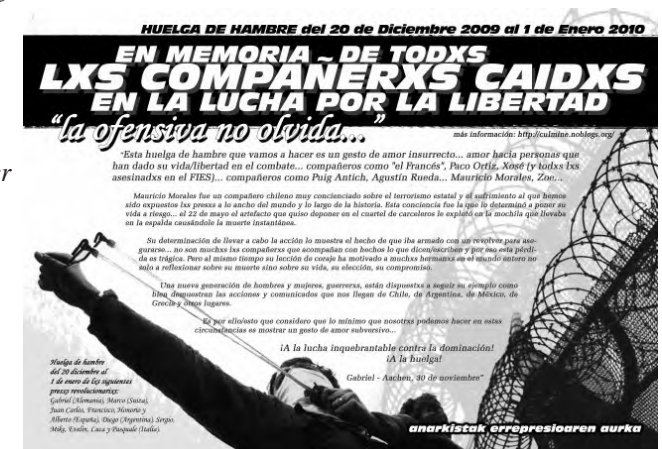
For continuous updates and comunicués (mostly in Spanish and Italian) check out culmine.noblogs.org.

Destroy all Prisons, and the world that creates them. Till we are all free!!!
-some anarchists

Here are the names of the prisoners in hunger strike from the December 20th to January 1st.

Gabriel Pombo Da Silva - Germany
Marco Camenisch - Switzerland
Juan Carlos Rico Rodríguez and Francisco Maya Rodriguez - Spain
Sergio Maria Stefani - Italy
Honorio Gómez Alfaro - Spain
Alberto Jiménez Alba - Spain
Diego Petrissans - Argentina

Poster for the Hunger Strike in Spanish



What is the fucking problem? I react to what they do with resistance and now they get mad. Can't take what they dish out. I'm not going to sit on my ass and do nothing if that is what they are thinking.

What led to this move was after a cell shakedown the c/o threw my religious material and some legal work on the floor, which was the worst part. So I did what I do best; one good foot in their ass and now I'm out again. It's time once again for my foot to get planted in their ass.

I do not know what time will bring, but I know resistance. It's all I know. Stay strong, my sisters and brothers. We can only live once and we shouldn't do it on our knees.

Manuel Salas
#504212
Racine Correctional Institution
Sturtevant, Wisconsin 53177

International Hungerstrike by Anarchist Prisoners

Received via email:

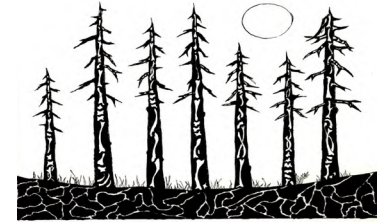
Following the call out of Gabriel Pombo Da Silva for the hunger strike from December 20th to the 1st of January, to include any revolutionary prisoner worldwide, we have received the confirmation of the participation of: Marco Camenisch (in Switzerland), Juan Carlos, Francisco, Honorio, Alberto (in Spain), Diego (in Argentina), and Sergio, Mike and Evelyn (in Italy).

In solidarity with the year end hunger strike, "Solidarity is a weapon, best used when it becomes gasoline to throw on those fires of revolt that their repression wants extinguished." -Sergio.

"I think it is clear that our oppressors are not afraid of our DIY explosives (on this point they are far ahead of us) but [rather] of the ideas that drive us to break through the status quo, of the love that moves us to overcome anything in our way and makes us bold and reckless." -Gabriel Pombo Da Silva.

We find it important to point out that this call-out is coming directly from imprisoned comrades. This is an "act of insurgent love" to "incite and invite to the joy of rebellion" (from the first communiqué of Gabriel Pombo Da Silva, Oct 2009). While each of these revolutionaries may come from a different context, affinities and points of reference, this hunger strike is meant to be a tactic of struggle in contribution to social war.

Many have mentioned in their communiqués their desire to commemorate the deceased comrades Marcelo (died in May 2009, while placing an explosive outside the Chilean Penitentiary Police Academy) and Zoe (died in May 2009 while



Legal Action Update, May 2010

As discussed in my last update [see PAN, vol. 3 #1], I'm suing the warden of Terre Haute United States Penitentiary because of deplorable conditions in the Special Housing Unit. Through the U.S. Attorney, the warden filed a motion to dismiss/motion for summary judgment asserting that I didn't exhaust the prison's grievance system before filing suit, as required by law. This motion was denied. I argued that, since the warden created a policy of one grievance form per week, that inmates are made to prioritize grievances and are therefore denied forms for existing grievances. I asserted that this grievance system is futile by design and that the SHU counselor facilitating the process was negligent in various areas. The judge ruled that the warden failed to prove that I didn't exhaust available administrative remedies. I hope this will be good case law for other convicts battling futile administrative remedy procedures. See *McCarroll v. Marberry* 2:09-cv-94-WTL-JMS (7th Cir) (2010).

I'm now at the Special Management Unit in USP Lewisburg. This eighty year old prison was recently transformed into a federal supermax 23 and 7 lockdown. This place is in a perpetual state of violence. Just two days ago someone murdered their cellmate. Officers have been stabbed through tray slots with harpoon-like spears, slashed up with razor blades, and assaulted in various other manners. There are dozens of cell extraction episodes a week.

I'm just about done exhausting remedies concerning conditions here. I will be filing suit this summer. To sum up the lawsuit simply, the BOP is subjecting me to unconstitutional conditions to get me to comply with the SMU program strictures which are plainly unconstitutional. Furthermore, this program serves no actual purpose beyond the BOP justifying, obtaining, and sustaining their funding. Simply put, the BOP created this madness to get taxpayer money.

I'm in a 55 square foot boxcar cell with a cellmate 23/1. The lights are on 18 hours/day, there's no ventilation, and temperatures exceed 95 degrees for months straight. The walls were recently steel-plated, adding 60 tons to this eighty year old cellblock without a permit or engineer approval. In order to ease said conditions you must write a ten page criminal autobiography and participate in psych department programming, violating your right to remain silent and refuse psych treatment. Needless to say, I'm refusing the program and suing.

The BOP justifies the program by saying it is alternative and not punitive, implying that by calling something alternative it magically passes constitutional muster and therefore they don't have to address my grievances. The strictures of the program and the conditions in the prison are plainly in violation of court precedents

and the BOP's own policies for standards of living.

Lewisburg staff persistently violate inmate rights. They seem to think lawsuits are just the cost of doing business. Any assistance with my lawsuits is appreciated. I need literature on the longterm effects of lockdown and information on the BOP's fiscal practices.

Jordan McCarroll
#25458-038
SMU/USP
PO Box 1000
Lewisburg, PA 17837



Gatesville, TX- May 2010

I am a 100% actually, and factually an innocent citizen. I have done absolutely nothing at all. I am from out of state and am the survivor of crime.

I am in a totally illegal nightmare. I have written every innocence project in America and 100's of attorneys. My children need me and I need my life and deserve it. I have done all the legal work myself and loopholes were found- they counted my days of filing wrong- in order to not hear my appeals on the writ that they said arrived a day too late (but in actuality it was early).

I have written 500 grievances. All are written legally, and in great detail. I have reported extreme atrocities, attacks, assaults, violent set-ups, torture, denial of food for weeks and worse. They became terrified of my expertise and so caused much attack and retaliation. They called me "legal eagle" and swore to get me in the worst place so I would be tortured and have no access to the law library. They have shoved me in the worst place nearly the whole time and I have done nothing to warrant that nor to be in this place at all! I don't belong!

I filed two lawsuits and the judge was so afraid of my excellence as I listed in detail all the atrocities in perfect legal language, he decided to call it "frivolous." And he prevented me from refileing.

I need an attorney or team immediately. I need to prove my innocence, get of here and go home.

Write: Ms. A
c/o Locust Place NE Suite 2125
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Michelle Andrews, PhD
1916 N Hwy 36 Bypass
Gatesville, TX 76596



one can be reasonably expected to harbor hope in such a situation.

Since I cannot afford an attorney to challenge the many errors of my conviction and sentence, or advocate for my freedom, I have reached that terrible moment when death is preferable to the continuance of unbearable sufferings. In the absence of any real prospect of freedom, I feel that all of my intelligence, my capacities, my bodily and spiritual characteristics have become utterly meaningless and absurd.

Therefore, to preserve what's left of my dignity and self respect, I demand mercy by allowing me to undergo the lethal injection. This sentence is far too much for me to bear. I am simply unable to continue to live without hope or freedom. You couldn't do it either!

The sentence is not just or proportionate and is, in fact, cruel and unusual, malicious, and vindictive. Who can live without hope for redemption? By volunteering for lethal injection, I will save taxpayers more than \$880,000 in costs of incarceration over twenty-two years. Please respect my right to die, as I alone am sovereign on the matter.

I now commit to the peaceful protest of hunger strike on this 20th day of April in the year 2010.

Robert McKay
#1182106 Skyview
PO Box 999
Rusk, TX 75785



Sturtevant, WI- May 2010

Around and around and around the DOC I go. What better game can they play but move me around three times in less than a year? In the last year and a half, starting in or around January 2009, I filed my 1983 against the DOC for the constant violations. In June 2009 they finally responded. My brother and I were next to each other in a segregated unit, but two days after it was filed, they forcefully removed him from his cell. A little resistance is not bad. Not even 72 hours after that my friend used one of the worst types of resistance. Around 11PM he ended it all. He had all he could take and hanged himself. The DOC knew what was going on, but did nothing to stop it. I banged on my door for over thirty minutes, but nothing.

About 10 days later I went off and painted my room with blood and made them come get me. I'd had it and it was time to relocate. Two weeks after that they sent me to another prison where I spent nine months putting my foot and my pen up the DOC's ass. I cannot speak of it due to the pending litigation, but after nine months or so they couldn't take anymore and sent me to another prison, where I am now. Not even two weeks after they moved me here, they're moving me again; the staff said I'm too much work, so I'm out again.

the transferred have received letters from Michigan saying that the institution is great and that they never want to ever come back to Fayette or Pennsylvania period. The move to Virginia in June won't be as wonderful or great because rumor has it that the inmates who are picked will only be allowed to take with them just two boxes of property and they will have to shave their facial hair and cut their dreadlocks. In the form of passive resistance, inmates are trying to avoid transfer by getting written up and going to the restricted housing unit for thirty days, thereby missing the date. It appears that lifers are more than willing to transfer to wherever the bus is going because after years of boredom, a trip to anywhere releases the stress somewhat. High risk convicts, troubled inmates, or inmates who are under detainees don't have to worry about transferring.

The department continues their pattern, trying and failing to build their way out of a quagmire of their own creation. They're building more prisons instead of letting people go. When I came into the correctional trap, there were only eight prisons in Pennsylvania. Who knows how many it will be before they figure out that building more prisons isn't going to solve the problem. When the new prisons are complete they will be filled in a week and overcrowded in the next and the likelihood they'll bring the transferred folks back to Pennsylvania in the proposed three years is unforeseeable because it would mean closing the prisons in Michigan and Virginia, which would put those people out of work and frankly, I don't see that happening.

George Brown #AK-4690
J-A-2017
SCI Fayette, Box 9999
LaBelle, PA 15450

Rusk, TX- April 2010 Declaration of Hunger Strike

I, Robert McKay, a prisoner of Texas, #1182106, formally declare hunger strike to peacefully protest the cruel and unusual punishment I suffer due to the disproportionate and excessive sentence of aggravated life for the wrongful conviction of a crime in which no one was injured. I claim the sentence is not in the best interests of myself or society, and only serves to stroke the vanity of the prosecutor and judge as being 'tough on crime.'

I claim that I was denied a fair trial, effective assistance of counsel at both trial and appeal, which resulted in my wrongful conviction. I claim this sentence has rendered my existence without hope, worth, or purpose, which allows no expectation of liberty, progress, or redemption and leaves me with nothing to live for. Such crushing mental anguish has completely destroyed my spirit as I face only a future of punishment and the mindless existence of regret, remorse, sorrow, and shame. No

Texas Prisoners File for Direct Grand Jury Access- May 2010

The current scheme of grievances within Texas prisons is severely broken. Retaliation is frequently meted out. Indeed, prisoners are assaulted by other prisoners and/or staff for filing grievances.

Reports on these issues are frequently in the media and even state agencies find that these events are common. An item in Prison Legal News assessed the September 2008 report of the state auditor concerning this.

On the Michael Unit, a prison near Tennessee Colony, TX, several exceptionally abusive guards are protected by other prison staff. One of these officers, Lt. Christopher Holeman, has repeatedly physically and sexually assaulted inmates and has done so in retaliation for complaints about his action.

Several inmates have brought suits and others have complained to the Anderson County District Attorney. In both cases the information is just turned over to the Office of the Inspector General who in turn advises Lt. Holeman that he has been complained of again. Nothing more happens. Retaliations start.

Once Lt. Holeman placed handcuffs on an inmate and then beat his head into a wire fence. Inmates who saw this were threatened with similar action if they complained. Another time Lt. Holeman sprayed gas into the face of an older inmate causing him to fall from the third tier of cells onto concrete floor below. The old man spent months in the hospital.

Several inmates have recently filed in the District Court of Anderson County, TX for direct access to the county Grant Jury. This action alleges bad faith on the part of the District Attorney and makes the point that if officials had acted, several of the recent assaults and attacks by Lt. Holeman would not have taken place.

John Cloud 749521
2664 FM 2054 Michael Unit
Tennessee Colony, TX 75886

Tennessee Colony, TX- 2010

This is an update to my Nov., 2009 submission, which was in PAN, Vol. 3 #1.

I resigned from the National Steering Committee of the New Afrikan Service Organization, in March, because I saw nothing that indicated the NASO was advancing. The newsletters Rising Sun Press published associating with the NASO never reported on projects that NASO Chapters were engaged in to better the conditions in prisons nor in the communities. I was informed that my chapter, which lasted two years, was the only one even submitting monthly chapter reports. After five years of existence, the NASO still had not developed the ability for members of different chapters to communicate personally, and my writings

advocating written discussion of issues and building leadership skills by way of the newsletters, distributing an Anti-13th Amendment Petition, and moving away from association with The Black Brigade organization were ignored. The NASO was a waste of my time, though the literature provided good history lessons.

I have now mailed out 41 copies of my Law Library Policy Project Survey Form [was 36]. The number of responses [11] has not changed. You might get a copy, and see if people on the outside will answer the one, yes or no question.

My lawsuit (Ayers v. Smith, et al.), #171533-C, in the 89th District Court of Wichita County, Texas), about colored paper and publication denials, was filed last November. The court has already shown its bias, because my Motion to Correct the Filing Date, filed in April, exposing the fact that the clerk is violating the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure by returning prisoners' petitions/suits unfiled if they are not accompanied by their Inmate Trust Fund Account statement, to prove indigence, was denied by the judge. There is no legal basis, but the practice saves the judge a lot of time / county a lot of money.

I still need help copying documents and getting stuff typed, and in getting non-incarcerated people to ask questions of, and make complaints to the TDCJ-CID/Texas Prison System.

Richard T. Ayers #468361,
Beto Unit
1391 F.M. 3328
Tennessee Colony, TX 75880



Draper, UT 2010- May 2010

I send revolutionary strength to all comrades worldwide!

From Utah's sole control unit, the infamous "Uinta one Futuristic Abu Grahb" unit the facts are these: brutal, chauvinistic servants of the evil, unjust Amerikkkan state, petty "rich folk lackeys" have been attempting to break us, to kill us. My friends, you all know their petty practices and tactics. I'll spare you the details.

Solidarity: the beautiful Coyote, my true soul friends, Steve and Rebecca at PWCC (PO Box 674, Las Cruces, NM 88004) have been struggling beside us, breaking their backs to help stop tortures and abuses.

Litigation: Mr. Spencer Hoopers' (rest in revolution) family along with the

Frackville, PA- May 2010

My name is Braheim Staten, #GJ2070, and I've been here at SCI Frackville for a little over a year. I originally came here to complete the SSNU program in order to get out of the hole early! The program was initially opened April 1, 2009 and was operated by *Mr. Rosato*, unit manager, and Ms. *Ross*, counselor. Those two were withholding inmates from getting approved level changes for something minor or just because they didn't like certain inmates. After a few months of them verbally abusing us, seven other inmates and I filed request slips to the deputies and Superintendent Wenerowicz. When that did nothing, we all got together and protested! Some covered their doors with sheets and towels getting ready to be cell extracted, others flooded their cells with sink and toilet water. The deputies came down and told us to be patient because the program was going to get better. It never did! One day a good friend of mine (Mickey *'Envy'* Allen) filed a grievance along with me about the heat not being on and it was winter time. A few days later, Mickey was getting his one-hour exercise in the yard and the unit manager (*Mr. Rosato*) approached him in the yard and stated: *'If you don't sign off on this fucking grievance, I'll keep your ass on level 5, motherfucker.*' This, along with numerous other verbal assaults toward us was too much for my friend Mickey. He'd had enough of Mr. Rosato. He *'allegedly'* assaulted Mr. Rosato by spitting in his face! Between other complaints sent to Camphill, human rights coalitions, and the numerous protests by me, Luke McCary, and Mickey Allen, they finally replaced Mr. Rosato and Ms. Ross with better trained counselors and unit managers. They gave my comrade Mickey a new case and shipped him out to SCI Cresson, but he'll tell you himself that it was worth it because now the inmates that come to the program after us won't have to go through what we went through. Since then, me and Crazy Luke McCary have both graduated the program and are now in GP where there is a whole new battle to be fought!

Braheim Staten
#GJ2070
SCI Frackville
1111 Altamont Blvd
Frackville, PA 17931

LaBelle, PA- May 2010 The Move to Virginia

Once again the Department of Corrections is moving inmates of out state like so many slaves. They pulled off last month's transfers in spite of a few inmates refusing to go, barricading themselves in their cells before they were extracted by force. Whether the gossip is true or not, friends of

Every guard that was on the extraction team received some type of injury. Each one had to see the nurse about something. One guard was allegedly stabbed during a cell extraction. The nurses laid him out in the sally port to work on him for about 45 minutes before he was carried out on a stretcher. After that, the guards' spirits were deflated and they refused to run in on anybody's cell. They showed their fear and defeat by their use of chemical agents from here on out.

We battled hard! Whites and several Latino prisoners from different factions all came together, successfully building an army in 20 minutes to fight together and take a stand! Guys that normally would not even talk to each other came together to take it to these swine, every one of us who got extracted received a black eye, bloody nose and many lumps and bruises, but we are proud of these wounds! (At least I'm proud of mine!). There were many foul and unprofessional acts done by the guards that directly violated the policies of the institution, and an investigation is being pursued. We are taking this as a victory.

The guards bowed down before we were ready to stop fighting.

When they brought me back to my cell, Latinos, Whites and Blacks were all chanting my name and cheering me on. It's so good to see solidarity in action, to see prisoners of different races and factions coming together like this, we need more of this before we can really start making positive changes in this system!

Resistance and Sacrifice,
Coyote,
ABC-Nevada Prison Chapter
Ely State Prison



For more information, or letters of encouragement and support please contact me at this address:

Coyote Sheff
#55671
P.O. Box 1989,
Ely, NV 89301

(Coyote's blog is on: coyote-calling.blogspot.com)



an injury to one is an injury to all

Mormon polygamists' governor Rocky Anderson have prosecuted the Utah DOC on a wrongful death suit and won.

Oppression: Against federal law this Utah plantation doesn't provide a law library. So my pending lawsuit against UT DOC with the UT ACLU is still that: pending. Have families go to <http://utahprisonwatch.blogspot.com> to sign "stop Utah abuse" petition and let's drop some more letters on the UT ACLU, 355 North 300 West, Salt Lake City UT 84103 and tell them what time it is.

Objectively we all know this imperialist, neo-fascist regime is going to get a lot worse before it gets better. We see the hypocrisy of building walls along the Mexican border to keep people out, but shipping/flying ton upon ton of military might to other peoples' streets daily. We understand ALL social ills (on which the right thrive and are above the law) including pedophilia, starvation, suicide, drug abuse, rape, murder, genocide, racism, sexism, etc. are the direct result and reflection of capitalism/imperialism.

Over two years I've stood here in the hole eating these cold meals and documenting abuse. I've seen the epiphany factor in my fellows when revolutionary words fall on their starving ringing ears. And something comrade Assata Shakur spoke comes to mind. About how a true revolutionary understands and accepts that his/her struggle may not show results in that lifetime. All we can do is what is correct until we die and pass it on, carry it on.

So as my liver shuts down from this cursed, pig-allowed Hepatitis-C scourge (c'mon these Nazis could prevent this damn disease or at least help us stop the spread of it. But like the dope sacks on the streets with Obama's very own finger prints on them, they don't) and as I'm over here in left-field Utah chopping away at the beast's tail, I scream "FUCK THIS SYSTEM." I yell, "FUCK AMERIKKKA." Get out of the Middle East. Get off the ghettos' throat. Feed the starving children. Remove your settler boob jobs and get off the Viagra and cash that in to do this, or else. Release us from these fascist koncentration kamps you beast. Remove our unjustly placed chains, our fascist Amerikan steel chains, NOW!

But until then, let us chop.
Lay down beast.
Stutter, stumble and mumble.

Brandon Green 147075
Utah State Plantation
PO Box 250
Draper, UT 84020

Let us not forget Mr. Ronnie Garner, executed by five all-Amerikkkan chumps by firing squad on 5/18/10. Fired on as he sat in chains. All Amerikan pre-meditated murder.

SOLIDARITY: WORKING ACROSS THE BARS

Jessup, MD- May 2010

Marshall "Eddie" Conway is the former Minister of Defense of the Baltimore Black Panther Party. In 1969, he uncovered evidence of the FBI's infiltration of the Panthers as part of the COINTELPRO initiative and just one year later was locked away, convicted of a murder he did not commit. He has played a leading role in a variety of prisoner support initiatives, including the formation of the Maryland chapter of the United Prisoners Labor Union, and the ACLU's Prison Committee to Correct Prison Conditions.

April 2010 marks the fortieth year I have been held unjustly. I would say illegally, but the fact is that those in power change the definition of what is legal whenever it suits them.

In 2009 we started a mentoring project known as Friend of a Friend at the institution where I'm now housed. The last seven months of 2009 were spent training twenty prisoners to be mentors. Eighteen of these men graduated with the help of the American Friends Service Committee's Peace with Justice Program in Baltimore. We are currently training twenty-five new mentees. Our goal: through our shared skills, experience, and knowledge, we will produce prisoners who are critical thinkers and able leaders. This will go a long way in changing the direction of the prison system and the communities from which these young men come.

During our initial training process, we worked with a local Baltimore production group WombWork Productions. Together we presented a play for the general population entitled The Birth of Peace. The success of this collaboration can be measured by the feedback we got from the general population here. The men crave these types of activities because they help them overcome the boredom and monotony of incarceration, which in turn helps to reduce the violence. We have a lengthy waiting list for new mentees and our current mentees are very enthusiastic about being part of Friend of a Friend. The play was about finding a peaceful resolution to conflicts between the various street organizations in our communities, and we intend to present this play again.

My new legal team is researching my case to wage the next legal battle for my freedom. My role in this effort is focused on fundraising activities. Support committees in Oakland, Los Angeles, and individuals in Baltimore have helped with both large and small donations. Proceeds from my new book will go toward these costs. The Greatest Threat: The Black Panther Party and COINTELPRO is available from the Marshall E. Conway Defense Committee Fund for \$20. For ordering, write to books@freddieconway.org or IAMWE Publications, PO Box 4628, Baltimore, MD 21212.

Page 18

The Battle of January 31st, 2010 at Ely State Prison, Nevada

There was a riot here at Ely State Prison that took place in the most restricted unit, 4B and 4A, that lasted from January 31st to February 1st. It was a battle!

There has been a lot of changes here at E.S.P. that started on November 23rd 2009, and rather than giving anything to look forward to, or any real incentive by implementing any constructive or productive programs, the administration has maliciously taken things away. Canteen privileges, appliances and visits have all been stripped away from us so administration can hold these things over our head and use them as a control method.

On November 23rd, 2009, all of the prisoners who are serving "Disciplinary Segregation" were all moved and placed in units 4 (A-wing and B-wing) and unit 3B. They intentionally made 4B the worst tier in this prison by strategically placing protective custody inmates and mentally ill inmates all around us on this tier, while taking appliances away. This was a deliberate attempt to subject us to the everyday torture, sensory deprivation and psychological warfare by way of P.C.'s and mentally ill inmates, who constantly scream, bang, verbally assault other prisoners, snitch and inform on us. The guards on this unit are the most strict, the most petty, spiteful, vindictive and retaliatory guards in this prison. These guards have intentionally gone out of their way to provoke us on several different occasions. They have confiscated appliances from inmates (including myself) who have committed violations prior to November 23rd 2009, prisoners who have been found guilty of minor and general write-ups, and even prisoners who were found not guilty of minor write-ups! To top that off, prisoners who have gone two months without their appliances, still have not had them returned in spite of what the policy states. The staff are not making any efforts to try to get the appliances returned to these prisoners.

Year after year it is take, take, take, and it has got to the point where we were fed up with it, and said enough is enough-- we needed to get things off of our chest!

Prisoners on 4B (including myself) kicked off a riot by flooding, burning, capturing food slots, popping sprinkler heads, forcing the guards to gear up and extract us from our cells so that we could fight with them! At least eight guards dressed in full riot gear and helmets would line up and run into our cells, trying to beat us into submission.

We fought hard and we took it to them. Many of us were successful at disarming them of their electrical shield, making sure to get our hits in before they wrapped us up and beat us down. One prisoner even got out of his cell and hit a guard so hard in the helmet that the face guard broke off! When it was all said and done, there were over 16 cell extractions on both wings. In total, three prisoners were sent to the infirmary, one of those prisoners was sent to the hospital outside of the prison because of head trauma, but the other two were returned back to their unit two days later. There was so much blood everywhere-- in the cells, on the tier, in the sally port, in the hallway and on the walls, it was a true battle!

Page 23

Continued From Page 19

Through August, elders, political prisoners and veterans of the struggle should make a particular effort to reach out to the youth and teach them our history and lessons from our experience. We should demonstrate Panther Love, throw away old grudges, and start new friendships. We should draw our comrades closer and strengthen our united commitment to advance the struggle.

Besides fasting, comrades need to physically exercise/work-out, and meditate for a harmonious mind, body and spirit.

Recommended study texts are; 1.) "The Norton Anthology of African American Literature" edited by Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Nelly Mc Kay; 2.) "Race and Ideology: Language, Symbolism and Popular Culture" edited by Arthur K. Spears; 3.) "The 48 Laws of Power" by Robert Greene and Joost Elffers and; 4.) "The Mis-Education of the Negro" by Carter G. Woodson.

Black Panther Political Prisoner "Chip" Fitzgerald Ends His Hunger Strike (from www.freechip.org)

The longest held Black Panther Party Political Prisoner, Romaine "Chip" Fitzgerald has ended his hunger strike at Corcoran State Prison in California now that the prison and its warden have met his demands. These demands were met only after countless calls were made into the prison by his supporters. According to sources close to him, Chip is scheduled to be transferred today out of administrative segregation at Corcoran and into Kern State Valley Prison's general population, where conditions (including access to medical care) may be significantly better. But, as he wrote recently, "We'll see."

Without a doubt, Chip's transfer is a people's victory. Warden Lopez at Corcoran State Prison capitulated to the people's demands. This proves the importance and value of political solidarity with prisoners in general and political prisoners in particular. Let's keep our movement going strong.

Background information:

Since February 2009, Chip had been held in an isolation chamber, "the hole," on an administrative charge he had appealed. Even though the required term of punishment ended in February of this year, Chip remained in the hole, transferred from Centinela to Corcoran State Prison in California.

Chip's situation was worsened by the ongoing refusal of the CDCR to provide him urgently-needed medical care, in violation of his Constitutional rights, under the Eight Amendment's prohibition of "cruel and unusual punishments." Chip embarked on a hunger strike in April 2010, insisting that his extended solitary confinement was unwarranted and that he is entitled to proper medical care.

DIRECT ACTION/ NON-COMPLIANCE

Comrade Bobby Dixon, NABPP- PC/PCCC

Minister of Justice From behind California State Prison enemy lines – within the Belly of the Beast that is the Amerikan Injustice System – I greet you! I call your attention to the Annual Commemoration of Black August, and invite you – prisoners and families – throughout Amerika – to join in honoring our beloved martyrs with fasting, study, sharing Panther Love and knowledge of our history of struggle against oppression and for justice, and renewal of commitments to struggle for a brighter future for humanity.

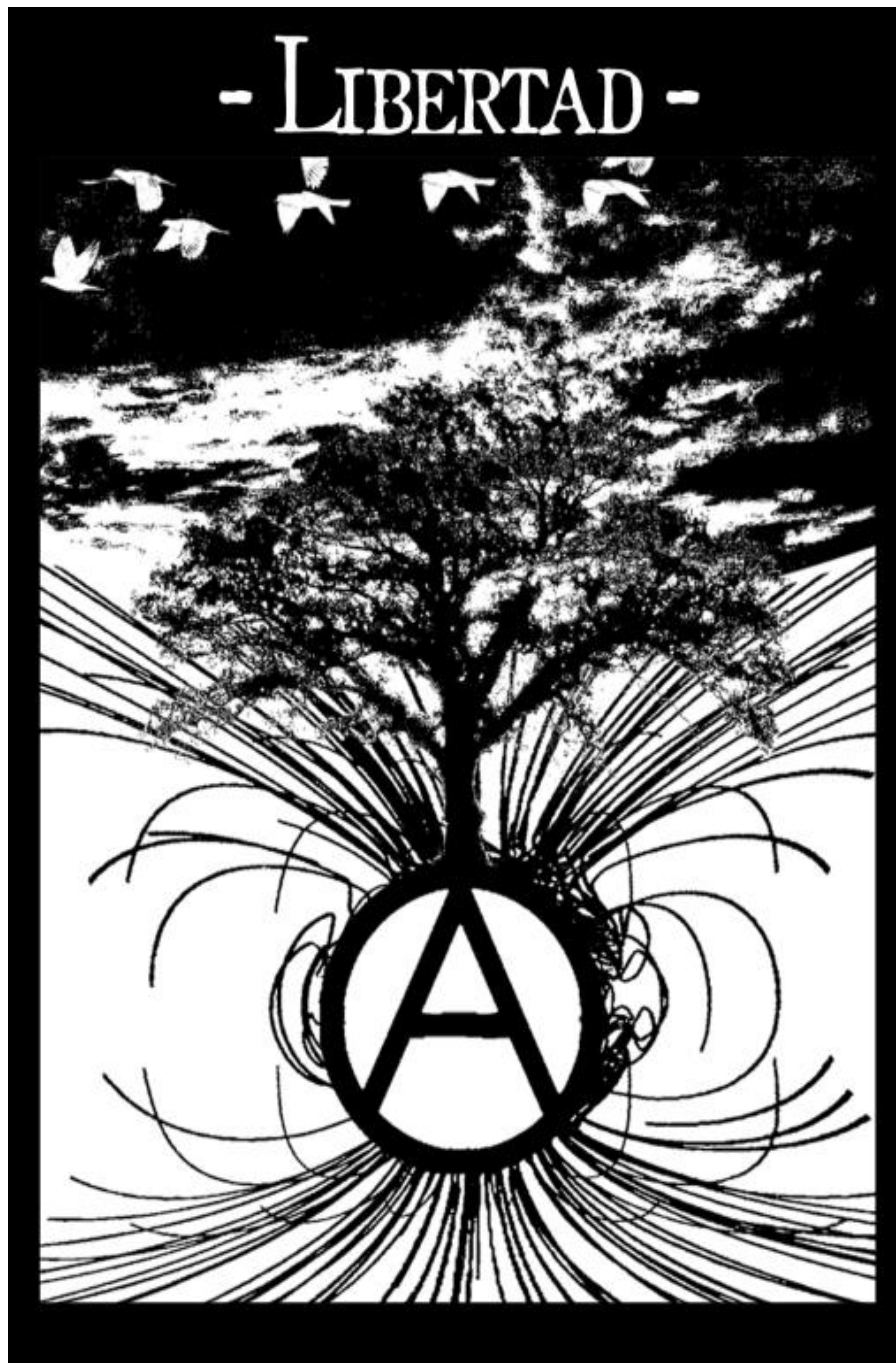
We must also remember that on January 1, 2009, police beat Oscar Grant, a 22-year old Black man, handcuffed him, and forced him face down on the platform of a BART Station in Oakland, California; then one cop shot Oscar in the back killing him. This cold-blooded murder was caught on cell phone videos seen by millions. Oakland residents immediately staged righteous street protests. The case has become a flashpoint of struggle in supposedly "post-racial" America; protests continue. Revolutionaries have been uniting with the efforts of people from a broad spectrum of political beliefs to say THIS MUST STOP, and bringing revolution and communism to the people.

Yes Sisters and Brothers, we shed tears for our fallen comrades – as well as many children – that have been killed by the oppressors in this land of our exile and enslavement. We have a right to cry over our dead – for every life is precious beyond measure – the loss of each is intolerable. We consecrate this month so that those who have been taken from us will never be forgotten – nor the love of liberty which their lives stood for.

Our grief is real – and so is our determination to continue the struggles until all are free and oppression is no more. Our pain makes us stronger and more human. Our determination makes our people struggle. We must get up and stand up as one – a united people – and prepare for revolutionary change in the 21st Century.

I propose, to clear our minds during the 2010 Black August commemoration, we respect our martyred Brothers Sean Bell and Gus Rugley, by eating but one meal a day throughout August. Then, fasting all day August 7th, honoring Jonathon Jackson, August 21st honoring George Jackson - Field Marshall of the Black Panther Party Prison Chapter; and August 31st to honor Hasan Shakur - NABPP-PC Minister of Human Rights. These three fast days should be silent days of contemplation, and throughout August we should refrain from watching TV and listening to the radio.

Continued on Page 22



Let's cut ourselves free
from
AUTHORITY

